

REMARKS

In response to the above Office Action, claims 1 and 3 have been amended to define the first-order modified, hydrogenated polymer as "(A-1)" to be consistent with the use of this term in dependent claims 4, 8, 13, 15, 17, and 19. These dependent claims have also been amended to use the definition in a consistent manner. It is believed this should avoid the Examiner's rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

In addition, claims 8, 12, and 17 have been amended for clarity and to use proper Markush language. Claim 19 has been amended to depend only from claim 17 and to define the second-order modifier (C).

Finally, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 2 which has been cancelled. Since the Examiner indicated claim 2 contained allowable subject matter, it is believed claim 1 and claims 3-19 dependent therefrom are in condition for allowance.

Non-elected claims 20-46 have been cancelled to advance the prosecution of this case.

While the Examiner returned one of the Form PTO/SB/08 filed January 10, 2005 citing the two references cited in the International Search Report, he did not return the other listing five other references. It would be appreciated if the Examiner would return the copy in his next communication.

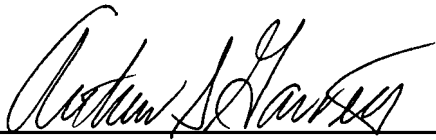
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 29, 2007

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